

Amendments to the Claims:

Re-write the claims as set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of controlling the time required to review multi-media program material comprised of~~ for playback of multi-media program material comprising segments, the method comprising:

~~playing back selecting for playback from the multi-media program material, a first segment of the multi-media program material, based on~~ selected according to a first criteria that is defined according to content of the multi-media program material;

~~suppressing the playback of a second segment of the multi-media program material, based on~~ selected according to a second criteria that is defined according to the content of the multi-media program material; and

~~playing back, selecting for playback from the multi-media program material, a third segment of the multi-media program material, based on~~ selected according to the first criteria.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first criteria and said second criteria are comprised of indexes within said multi-media program material.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said first criteria is comprised of an index that identifies at least one of: ~~the a~~ beginning and ~~the an~~ end of a segment within said multi-media program material.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the step of~~ suppressing the playback of ~~a the~~ second segment ~~is comprised of the steps of~~ further comprises:

playing multi-media program material until a first index is located;

while said first segment is played back, locating a second index in said multi-media program material; and

at the conclusion of the play back of the first segment, playing back multi-media content after said second index.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said second segment is ordered after said first segment and said third segment is ordered after said second segment in said multi-media program material.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said third segment is ahead of said first segment in said multi-media program material.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first segment selected for playback includes a segment of video of a first portion of said multi-media program material and a segment of audio of a second portion of said multi-media program material.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said multi-media program material is comprised of at least one of a televised sporting event.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first criteria includes a user's preferences to playback predetermined content.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first criteria includes a user's specified playback time of said multi-media program material.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein the step of selecting for playback, includes the steps of, further comprising:~~

viewing said multi-media program material;

identifying content segments in said multi-media program material that conform to at least one criteria; and

indexing said content segments by adding an index in said multi-media program; ~~and~~

~~detecting an index in said multi-media program material to identify said first segment to playback.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein the step of selecting for playback, includes the steps of, further comprising:~~

viewing said multi-media program material; and

annotating said multi-media program material.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first criteria includes at least one of:

detecting an image depicted in said multi-media program material;

detecting an audio signal in said multi-media program material.; and

detecting a camera angle at which content in said multi-media program material was captured;

the presence of user-specified programmatic material in said first segment;

the absence of user-specified programmatic material in said first segment;

subject matter in said multi-media program material;

a viewing angle at which a scene is captured;

a user-specified time period, during which said multi-media program material is to be reviewed; and

predetermined portions of a sporting event.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~ content for display is selected based on data embedded in said multi-media program material.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the~~ content for display is selected based on data transmitted with said multi-media program material.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising ~~comprised of the~~ ~~step of~~ identifying ~~the~~ an owner of intellectual property rights in a ~~content~~ segment.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 further comprising ~~including the~~ ~~step of~~ determining whether playback of a segment requires compensation to, or from, the owner of ~~a~~ the segment.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising playing ~~including the step of adding~~ an overlay segment.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein at least part of said overlay segment comprises ~~is comprised of~~ at least one of:

semi-transparent video; ~~and~~

opaque video; and

audio.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein at least part of said overlay segment is selected by at least one of:

a user's preference; and

a user's input.

22-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11 22~~ wherein indexing further comprises ~~said step of adding an index is comprised of~~ adding an annotation that that substantially contemporaneously describes information in said multi-media program material.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 22 wherein indexing further comprises said step of adding an index includes embedding an annotation in said multi-media program material that substantially contemporaneous describes content of said multi-media program material.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 ~~22~~ wherein indexing further comprises the step of adding an index includes adding an index by which ~~the~~ an owner of a ~~content~~ segment can be identified.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claims ~~25 or 26~~ 30 further comprising including the step of: storing said multi-media program material and said index on a storage media from which said program material can be played back and from which said annotation can be detected.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 22 further comprising including the step of: transmitting said multi-media program material and said index.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method of claim 11, further comprising adding content to a multi-media program, said method ~~comprised of~~:

detecting a viewer's input control signal to a multi-media playback device;

adding a ~~content~~ segment to the ~~a first~~ multi-media program in response to the user's input control signal; and

responding to the input control signal.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the added ~~content~~ segment is at least one of:

third party advertising content;
viewer-supplied media; and
an annotation.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the added ~~content~~ segment is presented on a remote controller for the ~~a~~ multi-media playback device.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein the added ~~content~~ segment is presented:

on a predetermined area of a ~~first~~ display device on which said multi-media program can be played back, said added ~~content~~ segment being presented substantially simultaneously with ~~the~~ display of said multi-media program.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 further comprising ~~including the steps of:~~

suspending ~~the~~ display of said multi-media program on a display device; and
displaying said added ~~content~~ segment on said display device while the display of said multi-media program is suspended.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 further including the steps of:

transitioning ~~play back the display of the~~ first and second segments of said multi-media program; and

~~playing back adding said added content~~ segment between said first and second segments of said multi-media program.

36-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for play back of ~~controlling the time required to review~~ multi-media program material comprising segments, the apparatus comprising ~~comprised of~~:

a multi-media playback unit, capable of selectively playing back segments of ~~the a~~ multi-media program material;

a memory wherein program instructions are stored;

a first controller, operatively coupled to said multi-media playback unit and to the memory, said controller operable to cause the apparatus, when executing the program instructions, to perform ~~having at least one input performing~~ the functions of:

playing back, i) selecting for playback from the multi-media program material, a first segment of the multi-media program material, based on selected according to a first criteria that is defined according to content of the multi-media program material; and

ii) suppressing the playback of a second segment of the multi-media program material selected according to a second criteria that is defined according to the content of the multi-media program material; based on the content of the at least one second segment; and

~~playing back, iii) selecting for playback~~ from the multi-media program material, a third segment of the multi-media program material, ~~based on~~ selected according to the first criteria.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 further including a wireless remote controller, operatively coupled to said first controller, said wireless remote controller capable of receiving information from said first controller and displaying content segments.

41. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said wireless remote ~~second~~ controller is configured to display ~~content~~ segments that contain third party advertising messages.

42-44. (Canceled)